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N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

By: Susan Carboni Deputy Attorney General Tel. (973) 648-2894

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF :

Administrative Action

TERESE POWELL, L.P.N. LICENSE # NP 03597800

CONSENT ORDER

TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of information that respondent had been charged with unauthorized use of prescriptions in order to obtain controlled dangerous substances by fraud on at least two occasions

in January and February of 2012. Respondent's nursing license expired on May 31, 2010. The Board finds that the conduct underlying the charges, if proved, would constitute a violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(f).

The Board finding that entry of the within order is appropriate, and that the conditions set forth in this order provide sufficient protection of the public health, safety and welfare, in lieu of further proceedings, and for other good cause shown;

IT IS on this 20th day of June, 2012

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED that:

- 1. Respondent hereby surrenders her nursing license and shall not petition the Board for reinstatement of her New Jersey nursing license until she has complied with the terms of this order and is able to demonstrate that she is fit and competent to resume nursing practice. Respondent shall also, prior to reinstatement, demonstrate completion of a minimum of thirty (30) credit hours of nursing continuing education.
- 2. Respondent shall agree to undergo a comprehensive mental health and substance abuse evaluation to be conducted by a qualified mental health evaluator as recommended by the Recovery and Monitoring Program of New Jersey (RAMP) within 30 days of enrollment in RAMP, unless RAMP authorizes a later date. The evaluator shall prepare a report which shall include an evaluation of respondent's mental health condition and substance use history (if any), and whether

respondent is able to safely and competently practice nursing, and said report shall include recommendations for further treatment and monitoring, if applicable, including the need for random urine screens or limitations of practice.

- 3. Respondent shall follow the recommendations (if any) by RAMP and/or the evaluator for further treatment and/or more lengthy enrollment in RAMP. Subsequent to evaluation, respondent shall limit her nursing practice, if recommended by RAMP, which may include respondent placing her license in inactive status.
- 4. Respondent shall enroll in, and comply with all of the terms and conditions of, participation in the RAMP program.

 Respondent shall cause RAMP to inform the Board in writing if respondent is non-compliant with, or is terminated from or resigns from further participation in the program together with the reason for and complete documentation of the non-compliance, termination and/or resignation. Notification of the Board shall be within 24 hours of determination of non-compliance, termination or resignation, or as soon thereafter as is practicable. Respondent shall provide RAMP with a complete copy of the within Order.
- 5. Respondent shall provide a release to RAMP allowing RAMP to provide pertinent reports, records and other information pertaining to respondent to the Board. Respondent's signature on this order signifies respondent's waiver of any right to confidentiality with respect to these matters between respondent,

RAMP and the Board, and respondent's agreement that the Board may utilize any such reports, records and other information it receives from RAMP in any proceeding regarding respondent's licensure and that the Board may release any pertinent information in its possession to RAMP.

- 6. During respondent's period of RAMP enrollment, respondent shall refrain from the use of any and all potentially addictive substances except as prescribed by an authorized health care practitioner who is made aware of any substance abuse history on the part of respondent. Respondent shall report any such use to the RAMP in writing within five days of receiving such a prescription together with the name of the prescribing health care practitioner, the name of the drug, the quantity, frequency, expected length of use and reason for its use.
- 7. While enrolled in RAMP, respondent shall attend regular 12 step support group meetings or the equivalent, and nurse peer support group meetings, as required by RAMP. She shall attend individual counseling and psychiatric treatment until successful discharge, if required by RAMP.
- 8. While enrolled in RAMP, respondent shall submit to random observed urine testing as required by RAMP. Respondent's failure to submit to or provide a urine sample when requested shall be deemed to be a violation of the terms of this Order. All random alcohol and drug screens shall be negative for the presence of alcohol or

drugs, unless the drugs detected by screening were properly taken pursuant to a valid prescription from a health care practitioner aware of respondent's substance abuse history, if applicable.

- 9. Respondent shall be responsible for all costs of the comprehensive mental health and substance abuse evaluation, urine screens, the enrollment/participation fees associated with RAMP and/or further treatment and monitoring, if applicable.
- Jersey, the United States and their political subdivisions as well as all regulations, rules or laws pertaining to the practice of nursing in the State or jurisdiction in which she practices nursing. Respondent shall report to the Board within ten (10) days any arrest, indictment or conviction for any crime or disorderly persons offense.
- 11. Respondent shall remain in RAMP until successful completion of or release from the program. Until respondent has successfully completed RAMP or been released from the program, respondent may not modify the conditions of this agreement without submitting a written petition to the Board providing a detailed explanation of the basis for the modification request, and then entering into a new, modified agreement with the Board.
- 12. Any deviation from the terms of this Order without the prior written consent of the Board shall constitute a failure to comply with the terms of this Order. Upon receipt of any reliable information indicating that respondent has violated any term of this

Order, respondent's license may be automatically suspended by the Board. Respondent, upon notice, may request a hearing to contest the entry of such an order. At any such hearing the sole issue shall be whether any of the information received regarding respondent was materially false. In addition, the Board reserves the right to bring further disciplinary action.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By: Tues Murphy PLD APN
Patricia Ann Murphy, PhD, APN, C

Board President

I have read and understand the within Consent Order and agree to be bound by its terms.